

North Shore Subsections SFRMP Meeting Notes
Two Harbors Area Office
February 25-26, 2004

February 25, 2004 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Present: Craig Sterle, Martha Minchak, Bob Kirsch, Lawson Gerdes, Tim Quincer, Doug Tillma, and Gaylord Paulson.

Meeting Notes: Notes from 2-4 and 2-13 okay as written.

GDS-9A: The stand treatment level GDS was reviewed and revised by the team. **Doug T and Gaylord** will complete the recommended edits/additions for final team review.

- Add a diagram to illustrate how HRLV will be treated.
- Stand selection pool are all the stands meeting the stand selection criteria.
- Stand treatment pool are all the stands selected for treatment in the 10-year plan.

Conversion Standards and Cover Type Rules: The team recommended that text be added in the plan document in the GDS-1B (Cover Type Conversion DFFC) and the Introduction to the Cover Type Management Recommendations Chapter that explains conversion standards and cover type rules. **Gaylord** will add text which includes the following:

Explanation of conversion standards and cover type rules:

- Composition during conversion in cover types such as WP, NP, WS may include significant portion of other species.
- Stands may not be fully converted to the desired cover type for many years, gradual increase in desired species over time.
- On some A, Birch, and BF stands where cover type conversion is desired, partial harvest, less intensive site prep techniques, and/or successive prescribed fire, may be appropriate for the conversion to WP, NP, or WS.

Conversion of a stand to a WP cover type: (add to Page 38, 4.7D)

- may take a long time for stand conversion (by rules) to occur
- may include a significant portion of other species.

Cover type defined by the species with the greatest volume (or stems per acre if less than 5" DBH). *The Key for Main Cover Type Determination is found in the CSA Users' Manual, Page 20. Also, is on the DNR Intranet at <http://dnrnet.state.mn.us/forestry/manuals/csa/index.html> in the Field Procedures Section.*

Stagnant Spruce (SX) Cover Type: The cover type management recommendations draft for decorative tree harvest in the SX cover type was reviewed, edited, and approved by the team.

February 26, 2004 8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Present: Doug Rowlett, Craig Sterle, Martha Minchak, Bob Kirsch, Lawson Gerdes, Tim Quincer, Doug Tillma, and Gaylord Paulson.

MCBS Site Summary Content: The team reviewed and revised the recommended content for MCBS Site summaries (attached). The summaries will be completed after the Two Harbors Area completes their portion of the preliminary management objective coding and the other edits to various fields and the NLTCSA(FIM) shapefile are completed. This information will be included in the plan during the next step of the SFRMP process. The team will determine later what portions of the MCBS summary will be included in the planning document (Appendix). Assignments for completing the summaries will be done later.

CSA to FIM: Paul Olson will attend the March 25th meeting to discuss the move from the CSA shapefile to FIM shapefile process prior to the stand selection and other recommendations on SFRMP shapefiles and data.

MCBS Site Review Steps: The core team will provide a checklist to direct the review by Area field staff. Site review should consider whole site, not just the stand selection pool.

The following steps were recommended to complete the review of Sites of Outstanding and High biodiversity significance in the NSH and the High survey priority in the LU and TU with state land managed acres:

1. Core Team complete assigning preliminary management objectives to the stands in the outstanding and high sites in the stand selection pool.
2. Field staff from each of the 3 Divisions provide additional info on Sites, e.g., historical management direction, plantations or other investments, planned management, etc. that could have an effect on forest management of state lands on O, H, and H' Sites.
3. Field staff use shapefile (NLTCSA) to look at all the information on the Sites and any Site summaries that the team thinks would help in the review.
4. Field input to team (format?) – provide an example.
-other Sites or areas that should be considered from a biodiversity significance standpoint?

-input, e.g., high SI aspen in a Site or portion of a Site that should be continued to be managed for aspen. Most of the WS in the Site or block of stands in a Site is plantations. Provide rationale.

-not looking for recommendations on how it should be managed, or stand by stand objective recommendations, or whether a Site should be of greatest concern or importance.

5. Team: does the field input affect either the importance or concern of the Site in relation to SFRMP or the decisions the team has made on Sites or the management objectives assigned.

6. Finalize the Sites that are greatest importance or special concern. Document rationale.

Another goal of the Site review would be to minimize conflicts during stand selection with the preliminary objectives assigned by the team. Field would review the preliminary management objectives assigned to 10-year stand selection pool (stands or blocks of stands) with consideration in context of other state lands to in a Site to determine if there are any conflicts/concerns about management direction.

Preliminary Management Objective Coding of Stands: Assignment of preliminary management objectives to stands in Sites of Outstanding and High biodiversity significance (NSH) and High survey priority (LU and TU) will be completed for stands in the 10-year stand selection pool. Additional stands (preferably groups of stands) could be assigned management objectives if input during the field review recommended additional coding (e.g., Cloquet Area coded additional groups of stands that were affected by dwarf mistletoe when doing the management objective coding).

Region Direction Request: Gaylord will check the status of the issues needing Region direction on March 5th since the direction is necessary for completing GDS 1F and 1C at the next meeting.

Next meeting agenda: March 11-12 at Two Harbors Area Office

GDS 1F

GDS 1C

Things to Do Table

Cover Type Chapter Review

Notes by gp, 2-27-04

Revised (Added Items 1 and 6 in the MCBS Site Review Steps.) and approved 3-11-04.